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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/046,008	01/11/2002	Reed J. Blau	1082-035	5219
60794	7590	08/18/2006	EXAMINER	
TRASKBRITT, P.C.			FELTON, AILEEN BAKER	
P.O. BOX 2550			ART UNIT	
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84110			PAPER NUMBER	

1755

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/046,008

Applicant(s)

BLAU, REED J.

Examiner

Aileen B. Felton

Art Unit

1755

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-14, 16-25, 68 and 69 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-14, 20, 21, 23-25, 68 and 69 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10, 16-19, 22 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 11-14, 20, 21, 23-25, 68, and 69 remain withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 7/28/2003. Claims 11-14, 20, 21, 23-25, 68, and 69, were all previously withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cioffe (5,449,423).

Cioffe discloses a composition comprising mixtures of potassium nitrate and potassium perchlorate of 35-69.5 % and of size 1-20 microns (col. 4 and 5). The composition also includes an organic acid of formula $C_6H_8O_6$ but can also include compounds with more than 6 carbons at 36% (col. 4 and 5) and binders (col. 2). The claimed organic crystalline particle is not disclosed.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use terephthalic acid (with 8 carbons) since Cioffe discloses that similar compounds to ascorbic acid with more than 6 carbons may be used.

4. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cioffe (5,449,423) as applied to claims 1-8 and 22 above, and further in view of Wise et al (H72).

Cioffe does not disclose or teach the use of phenolphthalein.

Wise et al teaches the use of phenols and acids such as phenolphthalein or terephthalic acid with potassium nitrate as a substitute for black powder.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the phenolphthalein as the organic compound with the compositions disclosed and taught by Cioffe since Wise suggests that it is known organic compound to be used as a fuel and substitution of one fuel for another is obvious.

5. Claims 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cioffe (5,449,423) as applied to claims 1-8 and 22 above, and further in view of Weber (5,620,691).

Cioffe does not disclose the specific claimed binder.

Weber teaches the use of PVA a vinyl acetate polymer in a composition that is a substitute for black powder and includes phenolphthalein and potassium nitrate.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the binder as taught by Weber with the composition of Cioffe, since Weber teaches that it is a known binder to be used in a composition that is a substitute for black powder and because Cioffe discloses that binders can be used. The moisture uptake is an inherent property of the taught binder. As to limitations which

are considered to be inherent in a reference, note the case law of *In re Ludke*, 169 USPQ 563; *In re Swinehart*, 169 USPQ 226, *In re Fitzgerald*, 205 USPQ 594; *In re Best et al*, 195 USPQ 430; and *In re Brown*, 173 USPQ 685, 688.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aileen B. Felton whose telephone number is 571.272.6875. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6:30-4:00, except alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on 571.272.1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


AILEEN FELTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER